## Message Text

## CONFIDENTIAL

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 SS-15 STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01 ERDA-05 FPC-01 PM-05 OES-07 ACDA-07 /124 W -----099957 291541Z/53

P 291529Z AUG 77 FM AMCONSUL VANCOUVER TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3718 USMISSION MTN GENEVA AMEMBASSY OTTAWA AMCONSUL CALGARY POUCH

CONFIDENTIAL VANCOUVER 0867

USMTN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, ETRD, GATT, CA

SUBJECT: ALBERTA PREMIER LOUGHEED CRITICAL OF GAS

PIPELINE, PUSHES BILATERAL TRADE PROPOSALS

- 1. AT BREAKFAST AUGUST 24, ALBERTA PREMIER LOUGHEED TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT EMERGING GAS PIPELINE DEAL HAS "NOTHING IN IT FOR CANADA" BECAUSE IT IS NOT ACCOMPANIED BY U.S. AGREEMENT TO OPEN ITS AGRICULTURAL (RAPESEED, LIVE CATTLE, AND BONED BEEF) AND PETROCHEMICAL MARKETS. LOUGHEED HAD HOPED THAT A GLOBAL PACKAGE DEAL, INCLUDING PERHAPS NET ADDITIONAL GAS EXPORTS AND HERITAGE FUND PARTICIPATION IN PIPELINE FUNDING, WOULD BE POSSIBLE: HE HAD CONCLUDED THAT U.S. JUST ISN'T INTERESTED.
- 2. AMBASSADOR TOLD LOUGHEED THAT PIPELINE WOULD APPEAR TO BRING MAJOR CONSTRUCTION, OPERATING AND ENERGY DEVELOPMENT BENEFITS TO CANADA AND THAT IS WHY NO ONE IN PARLIAMENT CONFIDENTIAL.

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SPOKE AGAINST IT. AMBASSADOR DOUBTED U.S. COULD CONSIDER GAS PIPELINE DEAL TIED TO NON-GERMANE SECTORS LIKE AGRICULTURE, BUT THAT ONE BENEFIT WOULD BE TO SET STAGE FOR NEW LARGE-SCALE COOPERATIVE VENTURES. TRADE DEALS LIKE THESELOUGHEED OUTLINED, DISCUSSED BILATERALLY AND EXECUTED MULTILATERALLY, COULD FOLLOW. AMBASSADOR DETAILED REPEATED U.S. EFFORTS TO SET UP DISCUSSIONS OF PETRO-

CHEMICALS AND GAS, AND BILATERAL EXCHANGES OF AGRICULTURAL REQUEST LISTS. LOUGHEED SAID HE WAS WHOLLY UNINFORMED, AND REHEARSED CUSTOMARY COMPLAINTS ABOUT OTTAWA.

- 3. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH IT IS TRUE THAT LOUGHEED CAN'T DISCUSS GAS EXPORT CONCESSIONS ON HIS OWN (NEB HAS THAT AUTHORITY), WE WON'T GET THEM WITHOUT HIS SUPPORT. HERITAGE FUND PARTICIPATION MAY ALSO BE USEFUL TO ACHIEVING ALCAN FINANCING. THEREFORE IT CONTINUES TO BE IN OUR INTEREST TO RESPOND (AND BE SEEN TO RESPOND) TO LOUGHEED'S OVERTURES, WHILE CAREFULLY STAYING IN CONVENTIONAL WASHINGTON/OTTAWA CHANNELS.
- 4. ACTION REQUESTED: WE SHOULD ASK THAT GAS/PETROCHEMICAL, AGRICULTURE ITEMS BE ADDRESSED SEPARATELY WHILE AMBASSADOR STRAUSS IS IN OTTAWA. FOLLOWING THEIR MEETING, STRAUSS AND CHRETIEN MIGHT ANNOUNCE THAT BILATERAL GROUPS WILL MEET TO DISCUSS THE ISSUES IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE MTN. ONE USEFUL RESULT OF THIS APPROACH WOULD BE TO RELATE GAS MORE FIRMLY TO THE DISCUSSIONS THAN OTTAWA HAS SO FAR BEEN WILLING TO DO.
- 5. MEANWHILE, WE SHOULD DEVELOP AND PASS ON TO LOUGHEED A NEW ESTIMATE OF POTENTIAL FDA ACTION ON RAPESEED. LUPPI

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## Message Attributes

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Subject: ALBERTA PREMIER LOUGHEED CRITICAL OF GAS PIPELINE, PUSHES BILATERAL TRADE PROPOSALS TAGS: ENRG, ETRD, CA, GATT To: STATE MTN GENEVA

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